



FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

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To: Chairman Johnson, Commissioners Hodson, Huguenin, Leidigh, and Remy
From: Roman G. Porter, Executive Director
Subject: Monthly report on Commission activities
Date: March 30, 2009

This is a summary of administrative activity and other matters since the report sent to you prior to the last meeting of the Commission.

A. Staff Projects

Technical Assistance Division—Seminars/Workshops

Lynda Cassady was a panelist at the lobbyist ethics training on February 19, 2009. In February and March, Cynthia Jones and Sandy Johnson presented several seminars to state and local officials responsible for performing statement of economic interests (Form 700) filing officer duties. Seminars were held in Sacramento, Los Angeles and Walnut Creek.

B. Conflict-of-Interest Code: Adoption and Amendments

Pursuant to Section 87300 of the Government Code and Commission Regulation 18750.1, state and multi-county agencies seeking to adopt or substantively amend a conflict-of-interest code must submit the proposed code to the Commission for review and approval. The Technical Assistance Division has reviewed and, since the last agenda, I have approved the following conflict-of-interest codes adoption and amendments:

Code Adoption

Schools Association for Excess Risk

Code Amendments

Consumer Affairs
Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
BETA Healthcare Group Risk Management Authority
East Bay Regional Park District
Dublin San Ramon Services District
Reclamation District 1001
Westlands Water District
North Coast Unified Air Quality District
Inland Empire Resource Conservation District
Northern California Cities Self-Insurance Fund

C. Request for Extension of Committee Termination

Taxpayers for Maldonado (ID No. 1277315). A request for extension of termination deadline was granted on March 11, 2009.

Wyman Debt Reduction Committee (ID No. 1284361). A request for extension of termination deadline was granted on March 11, 2009.

Navarro for Assembly (ID No. 1303840). A request for extension of termination deadline was granted on March 24, 2009.

Friends for Joe Dunn (ID No. 1279896). A request for extension of termination deadline was granted on March 25, 2009.

D. Audit Reports

Pursuant to Sections 90001, 90004 and 90006 of the Government Code, the Commission periodically conducts audits and prepares audit reports. Since my last report, the following audits have been completed:

Tony Strickland and his controlled committee **Strickland for Controller**. Mr. Strickland was a candidate for State Controller in the 2006 General Election.

Michelle Park Steel and her controlled committee **Friends for Michelle Park Steel**. Ms. Steel was elected to the Board of Equalization in the 2006 General Election.

Steve Petruzzo and his controlled committee **Committee to Elect Steve Petruzzo**. Mr. Petruzzo was a candidate for the Board of Equalization in the 2006 Primary Election.

E. Finding of Probable Cause

Pursuant to Regulation 18361, I have found sufficient evidence in the following cases to lead a person of ordinary caution and prudence to believe or entertain a strong suspicion that the following respondents committed or caused a violation of the Political Reform Act. **This finding of probable cause does not constitute a finding that a violation has actually occurred. The respondents are presumed to be innocent of any violation of the Act unless a violation is proved in a subsequent proceeding.**

(1) Ex Parte Requests

In the Matter of Agnes Gund, FPPC No. 06/751. On March 11, 2009, probable cause was found to believe that Respondent Agnes Gund committed one violation of the Political Reform Act, as follows:

COUNT 1: Respondent Agnes Gund failed to file a semi-annual campaign statement for the reporting period January 1 through June 30, 2006, in violation of Government Code Section 84200, subdivision (b).

In the Matter of George Chavez, FPPC No. 09/023. On March 16, 2009, probable cause was found to believe that Respondent George Chavez committed one violation of the Political Reform Act, as follows:

COUNT 1: As a designated employee of the California Strawberry Commission (CSC) as a member of the CSC, Respondent George Chavez failed to file a 2007 Annual Statement of Economic Interests in violation of Section 87300 of the Government Code.

(2) Probable Cause Conference

In the Matter of Day Yeager, FPPC No. 04/075. This matter was set and heard at a probable cause conference on March 11, 2009, pursuant to Regulation 18361.4. I delegated my authority in this proceeding to Senior Commission Counsel William J. Lenkeit under Regulation 18361. On March 25, 2009, probable cause was found to believe that Respondent Day Yeager committed one violation of the Political Reform Act, as follows:

COUNT 1: On December 1, 2003, as a member of the Planning Commission for the City of Solvang, Respondent Day Yeager participated in the making of and made a governmental decision in which she had a financial interest by arguing for and voting to amend a city development standard eliminating the Respondent's potential use of her preexisting improvement for dwelling purposes, in violation of Government Code Section 87100.